

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN NEA-05

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 USIA-12 SY-07 M-03 A-01 ABF-01 FBO-01

/031 R

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R 121505 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 068116

E. O. 11562: GDS

TAGS: AFSP

SUBJ: SECURITY MODIFICATIONS CHANCERY

REF : AMMAN 1698

1. AS INDICATED PARA 3 REFTEL WE HAVE BEEN AWAITING RESULTS EMBASSY SEARCH FOR ALTERNATE SPACE FOR USIS QUARTERS IN AMMAN BECAUSE WE REMAIN UNENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT LOCATION USIS IN RESIDENCE APARTMENT BUILDING. WHILE WE HAVE NO FURTHER QUARREL WITH YOUR SUGGESTION THAT DISPERSAL IS BETTER THAN CONCENTRATION AS SECURITY PRECAUTION, WE CONTINUE TO QUESTION DESIRABILITY HAVING PERSONNEL LOCATED IN SAME SPACE AS OFFICE SINCE WE CONSIDER THAT THIS ALSO POSES POTENTIAL SECURITY RISKS. IN PLANNING NEW SPACE, WE ARE INFORMED SECURITY OFFICERS WOULD GENERALLY DISCOURAGE AN ARRANGEMENT IN WHICH PERSONNEL WOULD BE HOUSED IN THE SAME BUILDING AS AN OFFICE.

2. WHILE SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS ARE OF COURSE OVER- RIDING AND WE ARE PREPARED DO WHAT WE MUST DO TO PROTECT OUR STAFF, AT THE SAME TIME WE CANNOT OVERLOOK THE FINANCIAL REALITIES WHICH FACE US. GIVEN THE ADVANTAGEOUS
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LEASE ON THE APARTMENT BUILDING WE ARE MOST RELUCTANT TO GIVE ALL OR PART OF THIS SPACE TO ANOTHER AGENCY AND MOVE OUR STAFF INTO MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE HOUSING AT A TIME WHEN OUR BUDGET IS BEING GREATLY EXCEEDED TO COVER ESSENTIAL SECURITY EXPENSES. WE KNOW YOU ARE AWARE OF THE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS FACING US THIS YEAR AND WILL PROPOSE ACTION BASED ON THE BEST SECURITY ARRANGEMENT FOR THE STAFF AT THE MOST REALISTIC FUNDING LEVEL POSSIBLE.

3. HAVING SAID THIS, IF THERE IS NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE, WE ARE READY TO ACCEPT YOUR JUDGMENT THAT RELOCATION USIS IN STAFF APARTMENT BUILDING ICH WILL ALSO CONTINUE BE USED FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES IS BEST POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO PROBLEM. PLEASE SUBMIT SPECIFIC PLAN FOR RELOCATION OFFICERS NOW HOUSED IN APARTMENT AND IDENTIFY THOSE WHO WILL REMAIN.

4. WE ARE INCREASING POST ALLOTMENT AT THIS TIME BY DOLS. 5500.00 TO COVER SECURITY MODIFICATIONS AND WILL BE PREPARED TO INCREASE YOUR SHARED ALLOTMENT TO DOLS. 2770.00 ON HEARING FROM YOU THAT YOU ARE READY TO RELOCATE PERSONNEL FROM APARTMENT BUILDING.

5. TRUST EMBASSY WILL GIVE FULL ATTENTION IN ITS UPCOMING BUDGET PREPARATION TO FINDING WAYS TO ABSORB PART IF NOT ALL OF ANNUALIZED INCREASED RENTAL COST. FOR INSTANCE, WILL SAVINGS RESULT FROM GIVING UP PRESENT MSG QUARTERS OR IS DOLS. 11,250 NET FIGURE.

ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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